

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of RAEKWON RAISHAMEER
ELROY SLAUGHTER, Minor.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

LACRETA SLAUGHTER,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

ANTHONY GATES,

Respondent.

UNPUBLISHED

September 15, 2009

No. 290529

Genesee Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 07-122663-NA

Before: M. J. Kelly, P.J., and K. F. Kelly and Shapiro, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent Lacreata Slaughter appeals as of right from a circuit court order terminating her parental rights to the minor child pursuant to MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i), (g), and (j). We affirm.

Although respondent acknowledges that her parental rights were terminated under §§ 19b(3)(c)(i), (g), and (j), she addresses only § 19b(3)(c)(i) in her brief on appeal. Where a respondent does not challenge a trial court's determination with respect to one or more of several statutory grounds, this Court may assume that the trial court did not clearly err in finding that the unchallenged grounds were proven by clear and convincing evidence. *In re JS & SM*, 231 Mich App 92, 98-99; 585 NW2d 326 (1998), overruled in part on other grounds by *In re Trejo*, 462 Mich 341, 353; 612 NW2d 407 (2000). Regardless, the trial court did not clearly err in finding that the statutory grounds for termination were established by clear and convincing evidence. See MCR 3.977(J); *In re Trejo*, *supra* at 356-357. The child came into care because of ongoing domestic violence between respondent and her boyfriend. Respondent completed parenting classes and domestic violence classes, but failed to benefit from them as demonstrated by her continued relationship with her abuser. Further, respondent failed to maintain regular contact with her son and did not attend any hearings, including the termination hearing, for nearly a year.

The evidence also showed that termination of respondent's parental rights was in the child's best interests. MCL 712A.19b(5). Therefore, the trial court did not err in terminating respondent's parental rights to the child.

Affirmed.

/s/ Michael J. Kelly
/s/ Kirsten Frank Kelly
/s/ Douglas B. Shapiro